

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	Nakanishi, et al.	)	Group Art Unit Unknown
			)	
Appl. No.	:	Unknown	)	
			)	
Filed	:	Herewith	)	
			)	
For	:	OPTICAL DIFFUSING PLATE,	)	
		OPTICAL ELEMENT AND	)	
		LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY	)	
			)	
Examiner	:	Unknown	)	
			)	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

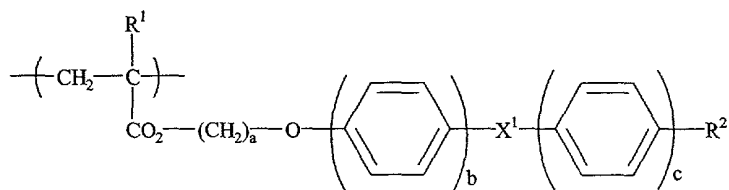
Preliminary to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following claims:

7. (New) The optical diffusing plate according to Claim 2, wherein the monomer unit (a) is represented by the following general formula (a) and the monomer unit (b) is represented by the following general formula (b):

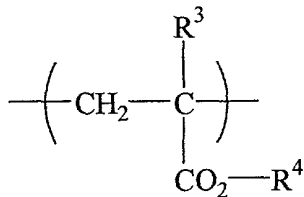
General formula (a)



wherein, R<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen atom or methyl group, a represents a positive integer of 1 to 6, X<sup>1</sup> represents -CO<sub>2</sub>-group or -OCO-group, R<sup>2</sup> represents cyano group, alkoxy

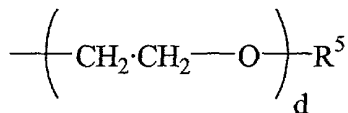
group with 1 to 6 of carbon, fluoro group, or alkyl group with 1 to 6 of carbon, and b and c represents integer of 1 or 2, respectively,

General formula (b)



wherein, R<sup>3</sup> represents hydrogen atom or methyl group, R<sup>4</sup> represents alkyl group with 1 to 22 of carbon, fluoro alkyl group with 1 to 22 of carbon, or a substituent represented by the following general formula (c),

General formula (c)



wherein, d represents a positive integer of 1 to 6 and R<sup>5</sup> represents alkyl group with 1 to 6 of carbon.

8. (New) The optical diffusing plate according to Claim 1, wherein the birefringent film contains a base material polymer selected from the group consisting of polyester polymers, styrene polymers, olefin polymers, carbonate polymers, acrylics polymers, vinyl chloride polymers, cellulose polymers, amide polymers, imide polymers, sulfone polymers, polyether sulfone polymers, polyether ether ketone polymers, poly phenylene sulfide polymers, vinyl alcohol polymers, vinylidene chloride polymers, vinyl butyral polymers, allylate polymers, poly oxy methylene polymers, and blended mixtures thereof.

9. (New) The optical diffusing plate according to Claim 8, wherein the base material polymer is a polymer comprising hydrocarbon without any polar group.

10. (New) The optical diffusing plate according to Claim 3, wherein the length in the direction of stretching axis of the minute domain is from 1 to 100 μm.

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REMARKS

Claims 7-10 have been added by the current amendment. Support for Claim 7 can be found on pages 13-15. Support for Claims 8 and 9 can be found on pages 8-9. Support for Claim 10 can be found on page 20, line 11. As such, no new matter has been added. Entry of the amendments is respectfully requested.

Should there be any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number appearing below.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: January 7, 2002

By: 

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